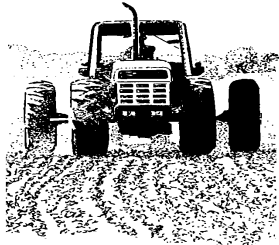


TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 07

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Week Ending May 15, 2005

NEAR PERFECT WEATHER FOR FIELDWORK

Sunshine and warm temperatures helped producers make great progress last week planting row crops and harvesting forages. Although a good rain is needed in most areas across the State, producers were pleased to be able to plant as much as possible. Corn planting was virtually finished, and soybean and cotton plantings were in full swing. Cotton producers took full advantage of last week’s rain-free days, planting almost half of the State’s acreage in one week. Progress was nearly two weeks ahead of last year and a week ahead of the normal pace. Soybean planting also made good headway, keeping it well ahead of the normal pace. Alfalfa and other hay harvest continued to outpace last year’s progress and the 5-year average. The winter wheat crop continues to be rated in mostly good condition with over a tenth of the acreage turning color. Beef producers have seen a moderate infestation of face flies, and controls were being applied in many areas. Other field activities taking place last week included spreading fertilizer, spraying pesticides, and transplanting tobacco.

There were 6 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent very short, 22 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent very short, 13 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees above normal across the State last week, while rainfall averaged well below normal in the Plateau and below normal elsewhere.

CROP PROGRESS: Through May 15, 2005					CONDITION: On May 13, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat - Headed	93	77	92	94	Winter Wheat	2	6	25	52	15
Winter Wheat - Turning Color	13	na	21	15	Corn	0	6	25	50	19
Corn - Planted	97	89	98	94	Alfalfa Hay	0	3	24	61	12
Corn - Emerged	80	64	92	87	Other Hay	1	5	23	61	10
Soybeans - Planted	31	13	16	17	Pastures	0	4	23	61	12
Soybeans - Emerged	9	na	7	6						
Cotton - Planted	72	27	44	54						
Tobacco Transplanted	24	7	21	21						
Alfalfa Hay - 1 st Cutting	50	21	45	38						
Other Hay - 1 st Cutting	30	13	26	25						

na = not available

CORN: With warmer temperatures, the emerged corn acres have begun to “green-up.” Two-thirds of the corn crop was rated in good-to-excellent condition. Farmers continued to side-dress fields and apply post-emergence herbicides.

WHEAT: Nearly all of the winter wheat crop has headed. The crop continues to be rated in mostly good condition with over a tenth of the acreage turning color. Damage to wheat acreage due to disease pressure was assessed at 26 percent none, 47 percent light, 23 percent moderate, and 4 percent severe. Some wheat acreage that was intended to be harvested for grain will probably be cut for hay due to frost damage. Frost damage and disease problems have been reported in many areas for the last couple weeks.

COTTON: Planting was in high gear last week with almost three-fourths of the acreage planted, well over a week ahead of the normal pace and the largest percent planted at this time since 2001.

SOYBEANS: Nearly one-third of the State’s soybean acreage has been planted, outpacing last year and the 5-year average. Last week’s warm, dry weather allowed producers to make substantial planting progress, with a small percentage of the planted acreage starting to emerge.

PASTURES & HAY: Farmers had excellent weather for cutting hay last week. Hay producers had cut half of the alfalfa and over one-fourth of the other hay acreage. Hay conditions continued to be rated in the mostly good category. Although pasture growth has slowed due to the recent dry weather, conditions continued to be rated as mostly good-to-fair.

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending May 15, 2005				Current Week 05/15/05	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Since April 1 Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	91	57	72	+5	0.80	2	22.67	+0.58	181	-41
Tri-City_RGNL_A	84	42	67	+5	1.29	3	15.26	-0.26	96	+24
Brownsville_TN	91	56	74	+7	0.43	4	19.95	-2.06	215	+82
Chattanooga/Lov	89	54	72	+7	1.03	3	17.41	-4.82	178	+28
Clarksville_Sew	93	52	72	+8	1.39	2	19.84	-0.37	180	+26
Cookeville	87	47	69	+6	0.36	1	19.51	-2.84	103	+53
Covington	90	55	72	+6	0.52	4	19.25	-2.72	183	-10
Crossville_AP	84	52	68	+7	0.21	3	19.71	-2.67	112	+37
Dickson_AG	88	47	68	+4	0.44	2	20.01	-1.58	119	-42
Dover_1W	90	50	71	+7	0.03	1	17.88	-3.26	159	+38
Dyersburg	93	55	74	+6	0.63	4	19.65	-0.26	222	-3
Erwin_1W	84	43	66	+6	0.44	2	16.02	-1.70	71	-38
Huntingdon_Wate	90	54	72	+7	0.22	2	19.26	-1.71	173	+42
Jackson_Exp_Stn	91	54	73	+7	0.36	3	21.33	+0.23	196	+16
Kingston_AG	87	49	69	+7	0.54	3	21.39	-1.83	121	+33
Knoxville_AP	88	53	70	+7	0.26	2	15.22	-3.78	165	+54
Lewisburg	90	48	70	+7	0.90	1	20.01	-2.04	125	+10
Lexington_TN	90	54	71	+6	0.40	2	19.23	-1.12	152	+97
Linden	89	52	70	+6	0.18	3	17.26	-5.32	148	+12
Martin	91	52	73	+7	1.03	3	18.21	-2.47	188	+33
Mc_Minnville_Tn	87	54	70	+5	0.88	3	16.33	-5.02	145	-54
Memphis_AG	93	55	74	+4	1.21	4	19.86	-1.67	206	-67
Milan	92	52	73	+8	0.33	2	18.37	-2.86	179	+24
Murfreesboro_5N	90	50	71	+6	0.43	2	19.73	-1.17	148	-83
Nashville_Metro	90	55	72	+7	0.43	1	19.52	+0.50	197	+26
Newcomb	86	49	68	+8	0.30	2	18.25	-2.63	94	+42
Oneida	86	50	69	+9	0.48	3	19.43	-1.45	104	-55
Pikeville	88	53	70	+5	0.54	3	15.64	-6.33	130	+12
Portland_TN	89	51	71	+8	0.52	1	19.95	-0.20	173	+64
Pulaski_Water_P	89	47	70	+3	0.76	2	19.62	-2.72	121	-65
Savannah_6SW	90	56	72	+5	0.74	2	20.39	-3.39	190	+46
Sparta_TN	89	53	70	+7	0.20	2	20.65	-1.15	139	+44
Springfield	89	49	71	+8	0.05	2	19.31	-0.23	174	+67
Springhill	91	51	71	+8	0.41	1	20.39	-2.07	155	+41
Union_City	90	53	72	+6	1.25	4	20.77	+0.38	149	+3
Waynesboro_TN	87	47	70	+7	0.60	2	17.96	-5.99	123	-40

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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